



Network News: Celebrating the Village Movement



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Celebrating 15 Years of the Village Movement

Thank you to all of our Village to Village Network members who registered for the Beacon Hill Village "Celebrating 15 Years of the Village Movement" webinar. Although we were unable to go through with the event/webinar due to inclement weather in Boston, we are thankful for the outpouring of interest in this event. We are working on re-scheduling the event and will let the members know as soon as it is planned. For those who still tuned in, Roscoe Nicholson of Mather Lifeways gave a presentation on Village research. We recorded it and it can be found [here](#).

In celebration of the 15th Anniversary of Beacon Hill Village and the Village Movement, we would like to share these words from our Village to Village Network President, Mandy Summerson:

I too would like to thank all of our Villages for your support and all of the work that you do for tens of thousands of older adults all across the country. Thank you to Beacon Hill Village and its founders for taking the lead in this movement that is shifting the way our country views aging. I'd also like to thank, on behalf of all Village to Village Network board members and staff, Laury and Nancy Coolidge for their very generous support of our matching grant over the past 4 years. This support as well as the support from all of our member Villages and other donors has enabled VtV Network to strengthen, grow and carry out our mission and Vision.

Village to Village Network is the essential tool that enables community members to build and sustain thriving Villages. The network creates interactions that connect individual Villages with resources, education, and expertise. Through innovation, collaboration, advocacy, and inclusion, VtV Network expands opportunity, choice, support, and care for all older people. Today, Villages are well positioned to positively affect population health in the communities they serve. Village members experience reduced isolation, enhanced purpose, and increased independence.

We continue to strive to work with each of you to enhance the opportunities and work of the Village Movement. This year, the 15th year of the Village Movement, we will be looking at ways we can together impact and influence local and national policies for older adults and aging in community. We will also be focusing on the future of the Village Movement and the overall sustainability of Villages. It is important that now, more than ever, we stand together and show our strength in numbers. We are a burgeoning movement of 350+ Villages and 30,000+ older adults, volunteers, family members and staff working together to make aging in community a viable option for everyone.

The past 15 years has been a great start for our Movement and we look forward to celebrating many more anniversaries and milestones with each and every one of you.

Village Stories: Gramatan Village Supports Local Villages

Gramatan Village recently hosted two events in an effort to show support of local businesses. These events were both fun and enjoyable and reflect Gramatan Village's mission to provide services and programs for members of the community so they can lead active, independent and vibrant lives while living at home in the neighborhood they love. The importance of shopping locally is often overlooked as shoppers look for bargains from major retailers. However, as recently stated by the Mayor of Bronxville, Mary Marvin, "the social and economic facts prove that it is a "bargain" to shop in one's hometown small stores every day. Small-town businesses not only provide convenient access..., they encourage a walking environment, and foster a human connection often lost between a merchant and customer. A small business district is a treasure--a glue that defines a community--a place where seniors and strollers meet."

The first event was held at Bronxville Wine and Spirits where Gramatan Village members and friends were treated to an evening of wine tasting. The theme of the evening was "Old World Meets New World" and the tasting included various wines selected by the owner of the shop who has a long history in the wine and spirits community. After the tasting, the owner conducted a quiz for participants based on the remarks he made about each wine and those who answered correctly received a bottle of free wine, providing an unexpected element of fun to the evening.

Next was a "Fabulous Over 50" makeup demonstration presented by Hourglass Cosmetics at Bluemercury. Hourglass makeup artists Lisa and Wendy performed makeovers on the attendees, demonstrating how to accentuate eyebrows and lips with the latest Fall shades. There was also a skin care demonstration where participants learned the importance of

keeping skin hydrated so their makeup always looks fresh and natural. Bluemercury's Manager provided a fun evening for all and attendees were served champagne and delicious cheese and cracker selections from Dobbs and Bishop, another local business. All participants received gift certificates and walked away feeling rejuvenated and beautiful!

Both events provided enjoyable evenings for members of the community and enabled GV to show our continuing support of local businesses.” said Kerry Walsh, President of Gramatan Village. As the Mayor and colleagues at The Bronxville Chamber of Commerce often remind people, shopping locally supports our wonderful community - making our community home.”



Announcing the 2017 NVG Theme!

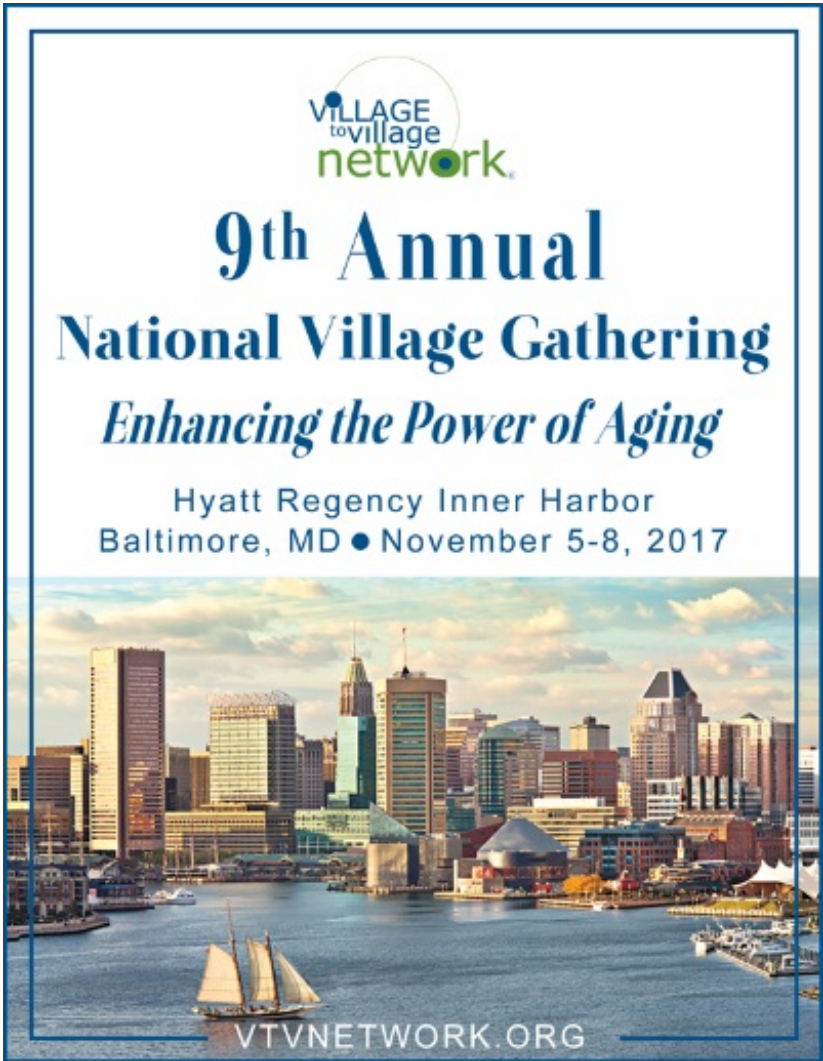
Join us this year in Baltimore, Maryland for the 9th Annual National Village Gathering! Mark your calendars for November 5th-8th. The conference will take place at the Hyatt Regency Inner Harbor Baltimore. More details will be coming on the website soon and we'll be opening registration on March 1st!

We're also excited to announce that this year's NVG theme will be:

ENHANCING THE POWER OF AGING

Under this theme the conference will have 4 different tracks for our breakout sessions. These tracks are The Power of Purpose & Sustainability, The Power of Diversity, The Power of Pioneering (Village 101), and The Power of Choice. Start thinking about presenting at on one of these topics in Baltimore, our call for proposals will be launched in the next couple of weeks!

We hope to see you at this year's National Village Gathering!



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